

**Consideration of preliminary adoption of amendments to 312 IAC 9-1 and 312 IAC 9-3 governing the hunting of white-tailed deer; Administrative Cause No. 10-070D**

The components of the proposed deer rule changes, which were formed after meetings during the past several months with stakeholder groups to discuss objectives, strategies and components of deer management in Indiana, include changes to the season structure, bag limits, hunting equipment, and licensing requirements. These changes also include those requested by the Natural Resources Commission and Natural Resources Advisory Council through the Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Rules Enhancement Project.

The stakeholders included representatives of the DNR divisions of Fish and Wildlife, and Law Enforcement, Bloomington City Council, Indiana Bow Hunters Association, Indiana Deer Hunter's Association, Indiana Farm Bureau, Quality Deer Management Association, Indiana Sportsman's Roundtable, Indiana Wildlife Federation, Indiana Woodland Owner's Association, The Nature Conservancy, and a sporting goods retailer.

The group agreed that the objective of Indiana's deer management strategy for the next five years should be to focus deer herd reduction in a strategically targeted manner to more adequately balance ecological, recreational and economic needs of the citizens of Indiana.

An online survey was also done with the intent to gauge hunter and landowner support for proposed changes to deer hunting rules aimed toward better deer herd management.

Below is a summary of the proposed changes to the deer hunting rules proposed by the DNR.

**Summary of Proposed Deer Rule Changes**

**Definitions**

- Moves the definition of crossbow to the definitions section, instead of defining it in 312 IAC 9-3-3
- Adds a definition of ground blind

**General Requirements and Licenses**

- Adds the new nonresident youth deer license types
- Adds license requirements for the new special antlerless seasons
- Requires hunter orange for youth hunters during the youth special deer season and during the new antlerless only seasons; hunter orange is already required for all deer hunters during the firearms season
- Requires at least 144 square inches of hunter orange material on a ground blind used while deer hunting during a season when a hunter is already required to wear hunter orange
- Requires the owner's name and address on ground blinds used on department properties

#### Hunting Equipment

- Allows a crossbow to be used by hunters who are at least 64 years old during the early archery season
- Allows a crossbow to be used during the deer firearms and muzzleloader seasons by hunters of any age
- Allows a hunter of any age to use a crossbow in an urban deer zone during the urban deer season.
- Allows a rifle cartridge to have a maximum case length of 1.8 inches instead of 1.625 inches

#### Seasons and Bag Limits

- Allows youth hunters to take the number of antlerless deer allowed in each county during the special youth deer season (in addition to one antlered deer)
- Extends the urban deer season through January 31 of the following year
- Requires hunters to take at least one antlerless deer prior to taking an antlered deer in the urban deer season
- Expands the urban deer zones in Lake and Porter counties to all of those counties
- Changes the deer firearms season to start on the first Saturday before Thanksgiving and continue for only 8 additional days
- Shortens the deer muzzleloader season to only 9 days
- Adds an antlerless deer only firearms season in October (2 days only) in counties with an antlerless quota of 4 or more. The hunter may take the number of antlerless deer in each county allowed under the bonus county quota.
- Adds another antlerless deer-only firearms season from December 25 through January 1 of the following year. The hunter may take the number of antlerless deer in each county allowed under the bonus county quota.

#### Military Reserves and National Wildlife Refuges

- Opens the firearms season on designated military reserves and national wildlife refuges on October 1 instead of November 1
- Adds the new nonresident youth deer hunting license types

**TITLE 312 NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**Proposed Rule**  
LSA Document# 10-

**DIGEST**

Adds 312 IAC 9-1-5.5 to define “crossbow” and adds 312 IAC 9-1-7.6 to define “ground blind.” Amends 312 IAC 9-3-2 which governs general requirements and licenses for hunting deer to include the new nonresident youth deer licenses and specify hunter orange requirements for groundblinds. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-3 governing the use of crossbows, rifles and blinds used while deer hunting. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-4 governing the season dates and bag limits for the special youth deer season, firearms season, and muzzleloader season and amends the urban deer zones in Lake and Porter counties. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-8 by opening the firearms season on October 1 on military reserves and national wildlife refuges and adds the new nonresident youth deer licenses. Effective thirty days after filing with the Publisher.

312 IAC 9-1-5.5  
312 IAC 9-1-7.6  
312 IAC 9-3-2  
312 IAC 9-3-3  
312 IAC 9-3-4  
312 IAC 9-3-8

**SECTION 1. 312 IAC 9-1-5.5 IS ADDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

**312 IAC 9-1-5.5 Crossbow defined**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22

**Sec. 5.5. "Crossbow" means a device for propelling an arrow by means of traverse limbs mounted on a stock and a string and having a working safety that may be drawn, held, and released by a mechanical device and has the following:**

- (1) At least one hundred twenty-five (125) pounds pull, and**
- (2) A mechanical safety.**

**SECTION 2. 312 IAC 9-1-7.6 IS ADDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

**312 IAC 9-1-7.6 “Ground Blind” defined**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22

**Sec. 2.7.6. “Ground blind” means a manufactured product that is used to completely conceal a hunter so that the hunter orange worn by the individual is not visible.**

**SECTION 3. 312 IAC 9-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

**312 IAC 9-3-2 General requirements and licenses for hunting deer**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22; IC 35-47-2

Sec. 2. (a) This section and sections 3 through 10 of this rule govern the:

- (1) hunting;
- (2) transportation; and
- (3) disposal;  
of deer.

(b) Species of deer other than white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) are exempted from the following:

- (1) This section.
- (2) Sections 3 through 9 of this rule.

An individual who claims the exemption provided under this subsection must prove the deer is other than a white-tailed deer.

(c) The licenses identified in this section are nonexclusive. An individual may apply for one (1) or more of these licenses.

(d) Except as provided under IC 14-22-11-1 and IC 14-22-11-11, an individual must not hunt deer:

- (1) unless the individual possesses a completed and signed license authorized under this section bearing the individual's name; or
- (2) with a deer license issued to another individual.

(e) A youth hunter may take a deer during the youth deer season established in section 4(b) of this rule only if:

(1) issued a license to hunt deer with:

(A) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

**(B) a nonresident youth deer firearm license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29); (C) a nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);**

**(D) a nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);**

**(E) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4);**

~~(F)~~ **(F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or**

~~(G)~~ **(G) an apprentice resident youth consolidated hunting license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (D) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or**

(2) hunting deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

(f) An individual may take a deer with a bow and arrow during the archery season established in section 4~~(e)~~ (c) of this rule only if:

(1) issued a license to hunt deer by bow and arrows with:

(A) a resident deer archery license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14);

(B) a nonresident deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17);

(C) a **resident** youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

**(D) a nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);**

**(E) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4);**

~~(F)~~ **(F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or**

~~(G)~~ **(G) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(E)~~ (D) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or**

(2) hunting without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

(g) An individual may take a deer with a firearm during the firearms season established in section 4(~~h~~) **(e)** of this rule only if:

(1) issued a license to hunt deer by firearms with:

(A) a resident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(12);

(B) a nonresident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(15);

(C) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

**(D) a nonresident youth deer firearm license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29);**

**(E) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4);**

~~(F)~~ **(F)** a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or

~~(G)~~ **(G)** an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(C)~~ **(D)** under ~~IC 14-22-12-1~~ **IC 14-22-12-1.7**; or

(2) hunting deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

(h) An individual may take a deer with a muzzleloader during the muzzleloader season established in section 4(~~h~~) **(f)** of this rule only if:

(1) issued a license to hunt deer by a muzzleloader with:

(A) a resident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(13);

(B) a nonresident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(16);

(C) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

**(D) a nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);**

**(E) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4);**

~~(F)~~ **(F)** a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or

~~(G)~~ **(G)** an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(C)~~ **(D)** under ~~IC 14-22-12-1~~ **IC 14-22-12-1.7**; or

(2) hunting deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

(i) An individual may take a deer during the urban deer season established in section 4(~~h~~) **(d)** of this rule only if:

(1) issued a license to hunt deer with:

(A) a resident deer archery license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14);

(B) a nonresident deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17);

(C) a resident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);

(D) a nonresident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);

(E) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

**(F) a nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);**

**(G) a nonresident youth deer extra archery license IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);**

**(H) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(E)~~ (G) under ~~IC 14-22-12-1~~ IC 14-22-12-1.7 ;**

~~(I)~~ **(I)** a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4); or

~~(J)~~ **(J)** a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or

(2) hunting deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

(j) **An individual may take a deer during the special antlerless deer season established in section 4(h) of this rule only if:**

**(1) issued a license to hunt deer with:**

**(A) a resident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);**

**(B) a nonresident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);**

**(C) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);**

**(D) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (C) under IC 14-22-12-1.7;**

**(E) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4); or**

**(F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5); or**

**(2) hunting deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.**

~~(j)~~ **(k)** An individual may take an antlerless deer in a designated county, by authority of an extra deer bonus antlerless license, only as authorized under section 4~~(j)~~ **(g) and (4)(h)** of this rule.

~~(k)~~ **(l)** An individual must, immediately upon taking a deer, attach a piece of paper to the deer that states the following:

- (1) The name and address of the individual who took the deer.
- (2) The license number (if applicable) of the individual who took the deer.
- (3) The sex of the deer.
- (4) The month and day the deer was taken.

A deer must be tagged with the piece of paper before leaving the field. A deer that is in the field is not required to be tagged if the individual who takes the deer maintains immediate custody of, and constant visual contact with, the deer carcass.

~~(l)~~ **(m)** An individual who takes a deer must cause delivery of the deer carcass to an official checking station for registration in the name of the individual who took the deer on the occurrence of the earlier of the following:

- (1) Within forty-eight (48) hours of the taking of the deer.
- (2) Before the deer is removed from this state.

The individual who delivers the deer carcass to an official checking station for registration must provide true and accurate information for the check station logs, including the name and license number of the individual who took the deer and the date the deer was taken.

~~(m)~~ **(n)** The head of a deer must remain attached to the carcass until the tag is attached and locked at the deer checking station.

~~(n)~~ **(o)** After the checking station operator records the permanent seal number on the log and collects the piece of paper described in subsection (k), the operator shall give the seal to the individual. The individual must immediately affix the seal:

- (1) between a tendon and bone;
- (2) through a section of skin or flesh; or
- (3) around a branched antler;

to prevent its removal (without cutting the seal or the body part to which it is affixed). The seal must be maintained until processing of the deer begins.

~~(o)~~ **(p)** The checking station operator must do the following:

- (1) Accurately and legibly complete all forms provided by the department.
- (2) Make those forms available to department personnel upon request.

~~(p)~~ **(q)** An individual must not hunt deer except from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

~~(q)~~ **(r)** An individual must ~~not hunt deer unless that individual wears~~ **wear** hunter orange. ~~However, this subsection does not apply:~~

~~(1) before the commencement of the firearms~~ in a season set forth in ~~section~~ **sections 4(b), 4(e), 4(f), and (4)(h)** of this rule; and

~~(2) after the muzzleloading gun~~ **in that portion of the archery** season set forth in ~~section 4(f)~~ **4(c)** of this rule **that overlaps a season set forth in sections 4(e), 4(f), and (4)(h) of this rule.**

**(s) A ground blind that is:**

**(1) occupied must contain a minimum of one hundred forty-four (144) square inches of material that is solid hunter orange and is visible from any direction during:**

**(A) that portion of the archery season set forth in section 4(c) of this rule that overlaps a season set forth in sections 4(e), 4(f), and (4)(h) of this rule; and**

**(B) during the youth special deer season set forth in section 4(b) of this rule.**

**(2) left unoccupied on department property must visibly bear the name and address of the owner written in the English language in a conspicuous location on the outside of the blind near the entrance.**

**(t)** Before September 1, 2012, an individual must not take more than one (1) antlered deer during the seasons for an annual deer license.

~~(u)~~ **(u)** An individual must not hunt deer with the use or aid of:

(1) bait, which includes:

(A) a food that is transported and placed for consumption, including, but not limited to, piles of corn and apples placed in the field;

(B) a prepared solid or liquid that is manufactured and intended for consumption by livestock or wild deer, including, but not limited to, commercial baits and food supplements;

(C) salt; or

(D) mineral supplements;

(2) snares;

(3) dogs; or

(4) other domesticated animals.

The use of manufactured scents and lures or similar chemical or natural attractants is not prohibited.

~~(v)~~ **(v)** An area is considered baited for ten (10) days after the removal of the bait or the baited soil. Hunting an area, such as an orchard, which may be attractive to deer as the result of normal agricultural activity, is not prohibited.

~~(w)~~ **(w)** Notwithstanding subsection (s), an individual may use dogs only while on a leash to track or trail wounded deer.

~~(x)~~ **(x)** Notwithstanding subsection (s), an individual may use:

(1) donkeys;

(2) mules; and

(3) horses;

for transportation to and from a hunt but not while hunting.

~~(y)~~ **(y)** An individual must not hunt white-tailed deer possessed under the authority of a game breeder license under 312 IAC 9-10-4.

~~(z)~~ **(z)** An individual may possess a handgun in accordance with IC 35-47 while hunting deer if the individual:

(1) has a valid unlimited license to carry a handgun issued under IC 35-47-2-3;

(2) has a valid unlimited license to carry a handgun recognized under IC 35-47-2-21(b); or

(3) is not required to possess a license to carry a handgun under IC 35-47-2-2.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-2; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2702; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1528; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 536; filed May 12, 2006, 10:38 a.m.: 29 IR 3344; filed Jun 23, 2006, 2:24 p.m.: 20060719-IR-312050214FRA; errata filed Jul 21, 2006, 1:56 p.m.: 20060802-IR-312050214ACA; filed Jul 10, 2007, 2:09 p.m.: 20070808-IR-312060572FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA)*

#### **SECTION 4. 312 IAC 9-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

##### **312 IAC 9-3-3 Equipment for deer hunting**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22-11-1; IC 14-22-11-10; IC 14-22-12-1; IC 14-22-12-7; IC 35-47-2

Sec. 3. (a) During the youth special deer season established in section 4(b) of this rule, a youth hunter must hunt deer only with the following equipment:

- (1) A bow and arrow as described in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(5).
- (2) A crossbow as ~~described~~ **defined** in ~~subsection (b)(6) and (b)(7)~~ **312 IAC 9-1-5.5**.
- (3) A shotgun as described in subsection (d)(1).
- (4) A muzzleloading long gun as described in subsection (d)(3).
- (5) A rifle, with the use of cartridges described in subsection (d)(4).

(b) During the archery season established in section 4(c) of this rule, an individual must hunt deer only with the following equipment:

- (1) A long bow or compound bow that has at least thirty-five (35) pounds pull.
- (2) Arrows that are equipped with metal or metal-edged (or flint, chert, or obsidian napped) broadheads.
- (3) Poisoned or explosive arrows are unlawful.
- (4) Bows drawn, held, or released other than by hand or hand-held releases are unlawful.
- (5) No portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any:
  - (A) track;
  - (B) trough;
  - (C) channel;
  - (D) arrow rest; or
  - (E) other device;

that attaches to the bow's riser shall contact, support, or guide the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height.

(6) In addition to the equipment described in subdivisions (1) through (5), ~~during the late archery season established in section 4(c)(2) of this rule, an individual may use a crossbow that has either of the following~~ **may be used as follows:**

- (A) ~~At least one hundred twenty five (125) pounds pull~~ **By any individual during the archery season established in section 4(c)(2) of this rule.**
- (B) ~~A mechanical safety~~ **By an individual who is at least sixty-four (64) years of age in the archery season established in section 4(c) of this rule.**
- (C) **By an individual who possesses a permit to hunt with a crossbow under 312 IAC 9-10-10 in the archery season established in section 4(c) of this rule.**

~~(7) As used in this section, "crossbow" means a device for propelling an arrow by means of traverse limbs mounted on a stock and a string and having a working safety. The crossbow may be drawn, held, and released by a mechanical device.~~

(c) During the firearms season established in section 4(e) of this rule **and the special antlerless season established in section 4(h) of this rule**, an individual must hunt deer only with any of the following equipment:

- (1) A shotgun.
- (2) A shotgun with rifled barrel.
- (3) A handgun.
- (4) A muzzleloading long gun.
- (5) A muzzleloading handgun.
- (6) A rifle, with the use of cartridges described in subsection (d)(4) only.
- (7) A bow and arrows described in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(5).
- (8) A crossbow as defined at 312 IAC 9-1-5.5.**

(d) As used in section 2 of this rule, this section, and sections 4 through 8 of this rule, a firearm must meet the following specifications:

- (1) A shotgun must have a gauge 10, 12, 16, 20, or .410 bore loaded with a single projectile.
- (2) A handgun must:
  - (A) conform to the requirements of IC 35-47-2;
  - (B) have a barrel at least four (4) inches long;
  - (C) fire a bullet of two hundred forty-three thousandths (.243) inch diameter or larger; and
  - (D) not be a rifle that has a barrel less than eighteen (18) inches or is designed or redesigned to be fired from the shoulder. The handgun cartridge case, without bullet, must be at least one and sixteen-hundredths (1.16) inches long. Full metal jacketed bullets are unlawful. All 25/20, 32/20, 30 carbine, and 38 special ammunition is prohibited.
- (3) A muzzleloading long gun must be .44 caliber or larger, loaded with a bullet at least three hundred fifty-seven thousandths (.357) inch or larger. A muzzleloading handgun must be single shot, .50 caliber or larger, loaded with bullets at least .44 caliber and have a barrel at least twelve (12) inches long. The length of a muzzleloading handgun barrel is determined by measuring from the base of the breech plug, excluding tangs and other projections, to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown. A muzzleloading gun must be capable of being loaded only from the muzzle, including both powder and bullet.
- (4) A rifle must fire a cartridge that meets the following specifications:
  - (A) Fire a bullet of three hundred fifty-seven thousandths (.357) of an inch diameter or larger.
  - (B) Have a minimum case length of one and sixteen-hundredths (1.16) inches.
  - (C) Have a maximum case length of one and ~~six hundred twenty five thousandths (1.625)~~ **eight tenths (1.8)** inches.
- (5) Over-and-under combination rifle-shotguns are prohibited.

(e) During the muzzleloader season established in section 4(f) of this rule, an individual must hunt deer only with a:

- (1) muzzleloading long gun as described in subsection (d)(3);
- (2) muzzleloading handgun as described in subsection (d)(3); or
- (3) bow and arrows as described in subsection (b)(1) through **(b)(5) or crossbows as defined at 312 IAC 9-1-5.5.**

(f) During the urban deer season established in section 4(d) of this rule, an individual must hunt deer ~~only~~ with bows and arrows described in section ~~4(b)(1) 3(b)(1) through 4(b)(5) 3(b)(5)~~ of this rule ~~during the early archery season established in section 4(c)(1) of this rule. During the urban deer season established in section 4(d) of this rule, an individual must hunt deer only with bows and arrows, including crossbows, described in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(7) during the late archery season described in subsection (c)(2) or crossbows as defined at 312 IAC 9-1-5.5.~~

(g) An individual must not erect, place, or hunt from a permanent tree **or ground** blind on state owned lands. A tree **or ground** blind placed on:

- (1) state owned or state leased lands;
- (2) U.S. Forest Service lands; or
- (3) any national wildlife refuge;

must be portable and may be left overnight only between September 1 and January 10. A fastener used in conjunction with a tree blind and a tree or pole climber that penetrates a tree more than one-half (1/2) inch is prohibited. Each portable tree **or ground** blind must be legibly marked with the name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the tree blind **in the English language**.

(h) An individual must not use infrared sensors to locate or take deer. An individual must not hunt or retrieve deer with the aid of an infrared detector.

(i) An individual must not possess or use an electronic deer call while hunting deer. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-3; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2703; filed Nov 13, 1997, 12:09 p.m.: 21 IR 1272; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1530; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 538; filed Jun 23, 2006, 2:24 p.m.: 20060719-IR-312050214FRA; filed Jun 29, 2007, 2:30 p.m.: 20070725-IR-312060272FRA; filed Sep 6, 2007, 12:20 p.m.: 20071003-IR-312070023FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA*)

#### **SECTION 5. 312 IAC 9-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

##### **312 IAC 9-3-4 Season dates and bag limits**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22

Sec. 4. (a) An individual must not take more than one (1) deer with each deer license.

(b) The special youth deer season is two (2) consecutive days beginning on the Saturday immediately before October 1 or as approved annually by the director.

(1) The seasonal limit for hunting deer under this subsection is one (1) **antlered deer of either sex and the number of antlerless deer established under subsection (g) for the county being hunted**.

(2) A youth hunter who takes an antlered deer under this subsection may not take another antlered deer during the:

- (A) archery seasons established in subsection (c);
- (B) firearm season established in subsection (e); or
- (C) muzzleloader season established in subsection (f).

(3) As used in this section, "youth" means an individual who is less than eighteen (18) years of age by the date of the hunt.

(4) A youth who hunts a deer under this subsection must be accompanied by an adult of at least eighteen (18) years of age who:

- (A) does not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while in the field;
- (B) possesses a valid hunting license of any type that is not an apprentice license;
- (C) must not accompany more than two (2) youth hunters at any one (1) time; and
- (D) must be in close proximity and able to communicate with the youth hunter at all times.

(c) The archery deer season is as follows:

- (1) Early archery season is from October 1 through the closing day of firearms season as established in subsection (e).
- (2) Late archery season **is** from the first Saturday after the closing day of firearms season as established in subsection (e) through the first Sunday in January.
- (3) An individual must take not more than two (2) deer of which only one (1) may be antlered under this subsection.
- ~~(4) After August 31, 2012, an individual must not take an antlered deer by means of a crossbow.~~

(d) The urban deer season is as follows:

(1) From September 15 through ~~the closing day of firearms season as established in subsection (e)~~ **January 31 of the following year.**

~~(2) During the late archery season as established in subsection (e)(2)~~

~~(3) An individual must take not more than four (4) deer of which only one (1) may be antlered under this subsection.~~ **At least one (1) antlerless deer must be taken prior to taking an antlered deer under this subsection.**

(4) A deer taken under this subsection does not count against a bag limit for deer set elsewhere in this rule.

(5) The following areas have been designated as urban deer zones subject to the urban deer season:

(A) The Indianapolis urban deer zone includes the following:

(i) All of Marion County.

(ii) That portion of Hendricks County east of State Highway 267.

(iii) The southeast portion of Boone County as bounded by the following:

(AA) State Highway 267.

(BB) Interstate Highway 65.

(CC) State Highway 32.

(iv) That portion of Hamilton County south of State Highway 32.

(B) The Fort Wayne urban deer zone includes that portion of Allen County lying within the bounds of Interstate Highway 69 and State Highway 469.

(C) The Evansville urban deer zone includes all of Vanderburgh County.

(D) The Lafayette urban deer zone includes the portion of Tippecanoe County north of State Highway 28.

(E) The ~~Gary~~ **Lake county** urban deer zone includes ~~that portion~~ **all** of Lake County ~~north of U.S. Highway 30.~~

~~(F) The Crown Point urban deer zone includes that portion of Lake County within the corporate limits of Crown Point.~~

~~(G) The Chesterton~~ **Porter county** urban deer zone includes ~~the portion~~ **all** of Porter County ~~north of U.S. Highway 94.~~

~~(H) The Michigan City urban deer zone includes that portion of LaPorte County north of U.S. Highway 94.~~

~~(I) (G) The Warsaw urban deer zone includes the portion of Kosciusko County within the corporate limits of the city of Warsaw.~~

(e) The firearms deer **is** season from the first Saturday ~~after November 11~~ **before Thanksgiving** and continues for an additional ~~fifteen (15)~~ **eight (8)** days. An individual must take not more than one (1) antlered deer under this subsection.

(f) The deer hunting season for only using a muzzleloading long gun or muzzleloading handgun is from the first Saturday after the closing day of firearms season as established in subsection (e) and continues for an additional ~~fifteen (15)~~ **eight (8)** days. An individual must not take more than one (1) deer of either sex under this subsection.

(g) The season and bag limit for hunting antlerless deer in a designated county, by authority of an extra deer bonus antlerless license, shall be established on an annual basis by a temporary rule authorized by the director.

**(h) The special antlerless deer season is as follows:**

**(1) The second weekend in October in counties with an antlerless quota of four (4) or more deer as determined under subsection (g).**

**(2) From December 25 through January 1 of the following year statewide.**

**(3) An individual may take only antlerless deer under this subsection and may take only the number established under subsection (g) for the county being hunted.**

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312IAC 9-3-4; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2703; filed Nov 5, 1997, 3:25 p.m.: 21 IR 930; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1530; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 538; filed May 25, 2005, 10:15 a.m.: 28 IR 2945; filed Jun 29, 2007, 2:30 p.m.: 20070725-IR-312060272FRA; filed Jul 10, 2007, 2:09 p.m.: 20070808-IR-312060572FRA; filed Sep 6, 2007, 12:20 p.m.: 20071003-IR-312070023FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA; filed Nov 12, 2009, 3:53 p.m.: 20091209-IR-312090060FRA)*

#### **SECTION 6. 312 IAC 9-3-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

##### **312 IAC 9-3-8 Hunting deer on designated military reserves and national wildlife refuges with additional deer hunting licenses**

Authority: IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

Affected: IC 14-22-11-10; IC 14-22-12

Sec. 8. (a) This section governs the activities of an individual who is hunting deer on military reserves and national wildlife refuges.

(b) If selected by drawing or invitation, an individual may hunt deer under this section on a military reserve or national wildlife refuge as follows:

(1) By firearms from ~~November~~ **October** 1 through December 31.

(2) By bow and arrows from October 1 through December 31.

The specific hunting dates and equipment will be determined annually by the department in conjunction with the management staff of the military reserve or national wildlife refuge.

(c) An individual must use equipment authorized under section 3 of this rule to take a deer under this section.

(d) An individual may take a deer on a military reserve or national wildlife refuge only if issued one (1) of the following licenses:

(1) A resident deer archery license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14).

(2) A nonresident deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17).

(3) A resident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(12).

(4) A nonresident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(15).

(5) A resident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(13).

(6) A nonresident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(16).

(7) A resident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18).

(8) A nonresident extra deer license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19).

**(9) A resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);**

- (10) A nonresident youth deer firearm license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29);**
- (11) A nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);**
- (12) A nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);**
- (13) A nonresident youth deer extra license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);**
- (14) An apprentice license of the types identified in subdivisions (1) through ~~(8)~~ (13) under IC 14-22-12-1.7.**
- ~~(10)~~ **(15) A lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4).**
- ~~(11)~~ **(16) A lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5).**

(e) An individual must comply with the season dates and bag limit for deer hunting as established in section 4 of this rule if using one (1) of the following licenses to hunt on a military reserve or national wildlife refuge:

- (1) A resident deer archery license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14).
- (2) A nonresident deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17).
- (3) A resident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(12).
- (4) A nonresident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(15).
- (5) A resident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(13).
- (6) A nonresident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(16).
- (7) A resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);**
- (8) A nonresident youth deer firearm license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29);**
- (9) A nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);**
- (10) A nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);**
- (11) An apprentice license of the types identified in subdivisions (1) through ~~(6)~~ (10) under ~~IC 14-22-12-1~~ IC 14-22-12-1.7.**

(f) An individual may take one (1) deer of either sex for each extra deer military/refuge license on a military reserve or national wildlife refuge. An antlered deer taken under this section is exempted from the limitations placed on the taking of antlered deer set forth in section 2 of this rule.

(g) In addition to the other licenses authorized by this section, the division may issue an extra deer military/refuge license under this subsection. This extra deer military/refuge license authorizes the taking of a deer of either sex only from a military reserve or national wildlife refuge.

(h) An individual must comply with all of the provisions in section 2 of this rule with the exception of subsections (a), (b), and (e) through (j). (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-8; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2705; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1532; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR- 312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA*)